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FOREWORD

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[Following is a translation of an article by Nakajima Kenzo (0022 1497 0256 5661) in Kuang-Ming Jih-Pao, Peiping, 27 February 1961, p 3].

At a time when it has become clear that the US is invading Laos, the Japanese people understand very clearly how dangerous the US-Japanese "Security Pact" can be. The Seventh Fleet directly or indirectly operates from the US bases in Japan, and makes use of Japan as its supply base. If American military activities in the Far East become more open, then, because Japan is responsible for participation in these activities, she would have to bear attacks and damages. This is very clear.

When the Nishi cabinet was negotiating the amendment of the treaty, it was said that the US must consult Japan if the former were to take any important military actions. Therefore, the cabinet held that Japan would not be involved in a war. However, does Japan have the right and the strength to oppose the demands of the US military? Or, let us ask, is Japan brave enough to express such opposition? The Japanese government's arguments are really to fool her people. Besides, in Laos the Americans did not consult the Japanese government at all beforehand. The pact is no longer an expected future danger, but a very real danger that is to be faced. The people who oppose the pact do not recognize the existence of such a pact because it is the most shameful pact in Japan's history, one which is unjust, and whose amendment has been forced upon the country. Besides, in joining American imperialism we are going against righteousness. It will bog our nation down in the danger of extinction.

Since the latter half of 1960, our struggle has been changed from preventing the amendment of the pact to abrogation of the pact. After the 23rd Unified Movement, although our activities against the alliance are not as strong as before, we are not ceasing our efforts in striking down the Ikeda cabinet which was formed after we had succeeded in leveling the Nishi cabinet.

Today we understand that to oppose the pact does not merely mean opposition to the party in power by those out of power; it is mainly a movement by the masses. This fact has very important meaning.

After the fall of the Nishi cabinet, the general election showed that the Liberal-Democratic Party still occupied the majority of the seats in the Diet. But this time the matter of favoring or disapproving the pact has become the center of public argumentation. Because of the affair of the assassination of Asanuma, Party Chairman of the Socialist Party, and

the attending anger, each person who voted for the Communist or Socialist ticket was fully aware of the meaning of his one vote before casting his ballot.

Previously there had been a middle class in Japan which was not concerned with politics. Among their ranks there were many who lack the awareness to oppose the political power in control and only cared about personal comforts. They avoided discussions on the fundamental problems of politics and gave up their ballots to what was their own enemy, the Capitalistic Party.

At present there still exist many people who lack this awareness. But the Japanese Government, in order to oppress the strength of Japanese Socialism, to delay the independence of Japan, and to deter democratization of Japan, has submitted the "Code for the Prevention of Subversive Activities", as a resolution to the Diet. It also tried to amend the code of "The Execution of Police Official Duties". They finally succeeded in the dangerous plot of amending the US-Japanese Security Pact. When this took place, many of the people who lacked awareness finally awoke. This was, of course, quite natural. The American imperialists in their barefaced aggressive activities have caused incidents in every part of the world. If a person cannot see this, he must surely be blind.

The general elections after the anti-pact struggle prove that many of the Japanese people who were not awake finally became aware of things. Both the Communist Party and the Socialist Party definitely increased their votes and gained seats in the Diet. Although the Liberal-Democrat Party still had a majority of the seats, many of the votes they received were cast blindly; this cannot be refuted.

We cannot look at the results of the election merely from the votes received, but must look at the true nature of the votes. The Democratic Socialist Party which did not clearly indicate their attitude towards the struggle in opposition to the pact, and which depends for their votes upon the support of the middle strata, could have obtained many seats in the Diet, but they were utterly defeated. This is a proof that we must look at the voting from its true nature, which has the greatest importance and meaning.

The Japanese Diet no longer can be manipulated by the members of the Lower House. In the struggles against the pact, the awareness of the people has been demonstrated. Without realizing it, the people are able to exert a lot of pressure on the government run by the majority party. This is not an ordinary situation.

The reactionary nature of the Ikeda government is very noticeable and easy to see. It is adopting a "low posture" and pretending to be adopting a "wait and see" attitude. This is due to the fact that it is bending to the pressure of the alert masses.

The strength of the alert masses, because of the struggles against the pact, has been somewhat expended. This is a fact. If it is limited, then there is likelihood of its being used up. But it is wrong to simply say that all the strength has already been expended. This is because the source of the spring of replenishment is healthy. On the international scene American imperialism's bankruptcy is a great and effective stimulus

in forcing the awareness of the people, and will help it to gain strength rapidly.

I am of the opinion that the present situation in Japan is good, just like a large and alive electric condenser that is being charged. Before the condenser is used on electric equipment, the voltage rises constantly, but it is only being charged and not used. When the voltage reaches a definite level it will be a machine that will release all its energy simultaneously. The anti-pact struggle is just like the condenser receiving the reactionary stimuli of the government, and whose strength is being charged with energy over a long period of time and will erupt like lightning when the time comes.

This kind of lightning eruption has taken place 23 times continuously. In the process there has been changes in the capacity of the condenser. It has become more sensitive in receiving stimuli from the world situation. Because the capacity and ability has changed the storage of energy might take time. The present is actually the fermenting period for the next lightning-like eruption.

Asanuma's assassination led to immediate protests by the masses, who unfurled the red flags and surrounded the Diet. The roars of "Expose the behind-the-scene manipulators" rang throughout the nation. What is the background for this murder by a 17-year old youth? Asanuma once declared, "American imperialism is the common enemy of the Japanese and Chinese peoples". He said this to the very end. This kind of talk has hurt the imperialists and their running dogs. They are aware that in the midst of the Japanese people the power that hopes to realize democracy, independence, peace, and neutrality are once more storing energy. They are afraid of the eruption of the people's strength. They are publicly or secretly proceeding with sabotage. Many of these plots have not been revealed. But the alert Japanese in shouting the slogan above, are storing more strength for larger scaled struggles to be erupted.

The Japanese right wingers were already the running dogs of the Japanese imperialists before the War. They destroyed the democratic and peace powers of the people and prepared for the war of aggression. But at the present time, the strength for peace of the Japanese people is no longer a weak one, and can no longer be trammelled by the reactionaries. The fierceness of the right wing is but a smoke screen to hide the teeth of the imperialists behind them.

American imperialists' invasion of Laos as well as the political murder of Congo's Lumumba are incidents that are threatening peace and happening all the time. Asanuma's assassination is another political plot inside Japan, and has the same backers behind the scenes.

In our struggles against the pact, because of the brutality of the right wing, we must of course suffer deaths and injuries. In our struggles during our strike at the Mitsuike Coal Mines our union members have also suffered casualties inflicted by the right wingers. Not only in Japan, but all through the world, our struggles have met with the same kind of brutality by the American Imperialists.

The people inside of Japan reacted immediately against the invasion of Laos and the murder of Lumumba by the imperialists. There has been

some charging of the large and very much alive condenser each time we struggle. As reactionary oppression towards the alert masses increased, there has been a corresponding improvement in the clarity of vision of the Japanese people. We are fully aware that the teeth of our common enemy is directly on our backs. We will strengthen our unity to face our common enemy when we look at the fresh blood from their claw marks.

Our experience in the lightning explosion of our struggles against the pact has become a dependable preparation for the next big struggle by the Japanese people. Our condenser in our previous has not only not been injured, but its capacity has been increased. The gradual build-up of the condenser will take time. It is more than likely that the puppets of our enemy will be ordered to threaten us. It is possible that these puppets will force us down through the terms of the pact and make us take poisoned honey.

It is feared that the new administration in America will train these puppets on the one hand in order to maintain the pact. On the other hand they will be importing their senile culture to deter the Japanese masses into a full awakening. But, because of the continuous stimuli offered by the many incidents inside and outside of this country by the imperialists, the awareness of the people will be continuously marching them towards the abrogation of the pact and the termination of the US-Japanese military alliance.

At the present time, the East wind and the West wind are continuing to blow over the soil of Japan. But gradually the East wind will prevail over the West wind.